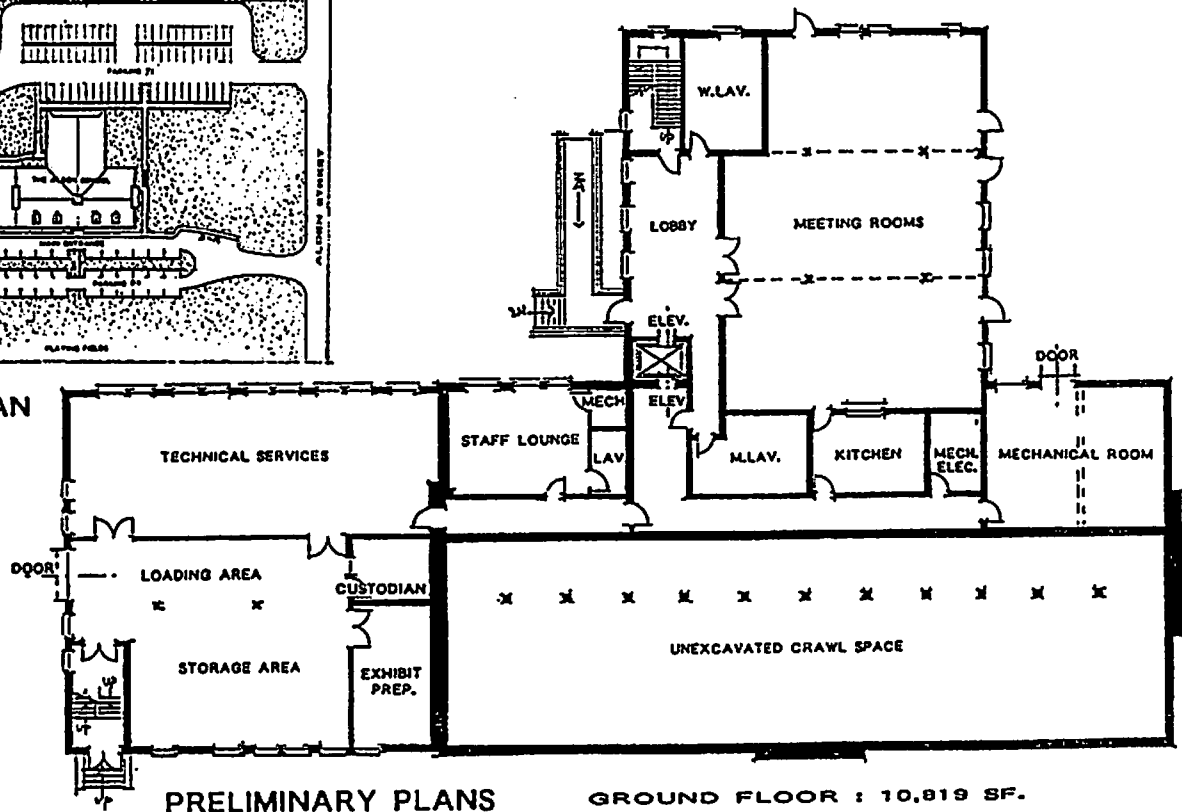
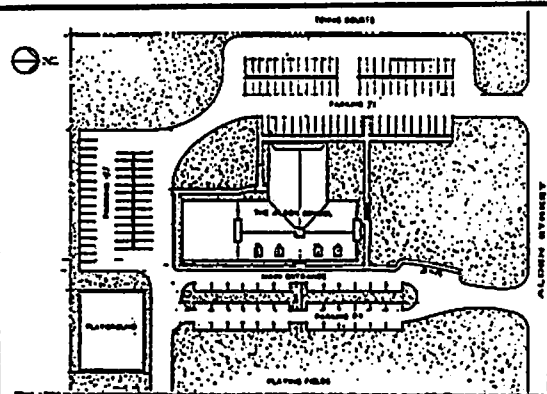
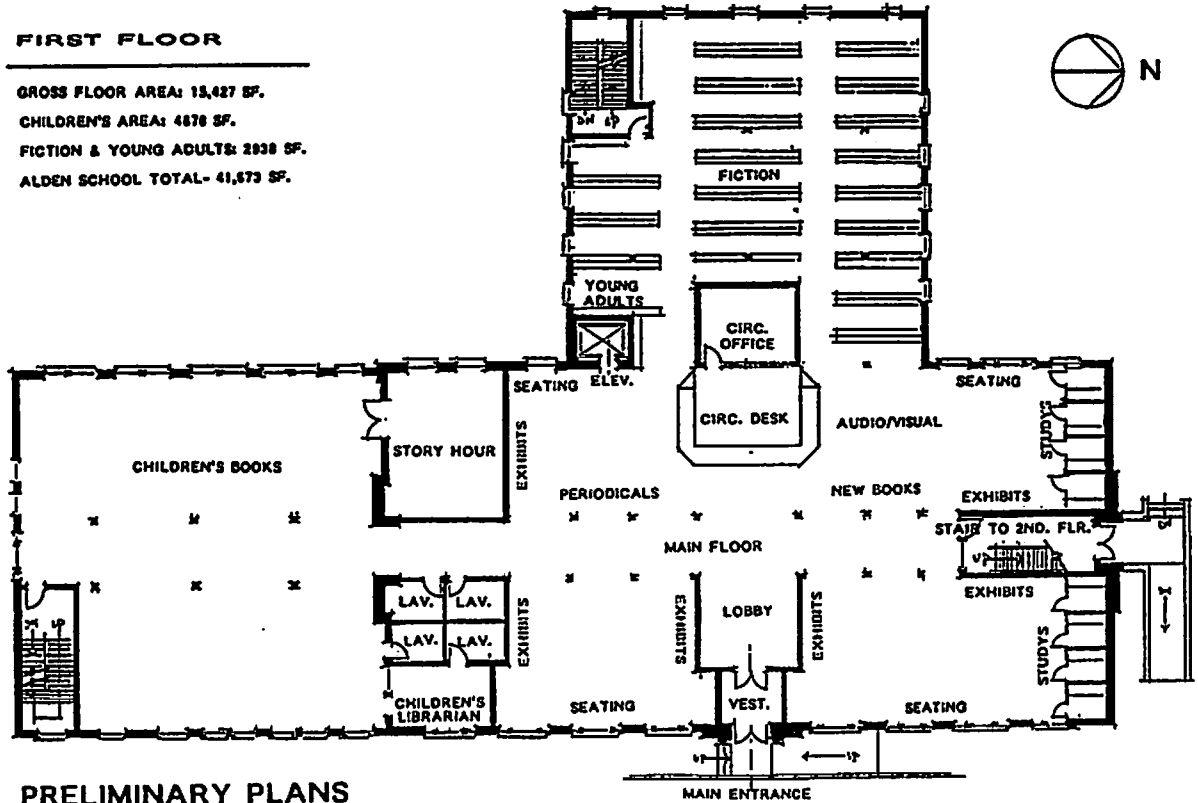


# FIRST FLOOR

GROSS FLOOR AREA: 15,427 SF.  
 CHILDREN'S AREA: 4876 SF.  
 FICTION & YOUNG ADULTS: 2938 SF.  
 ALDEN SCHOOL TOTAL- 41,673 SF.

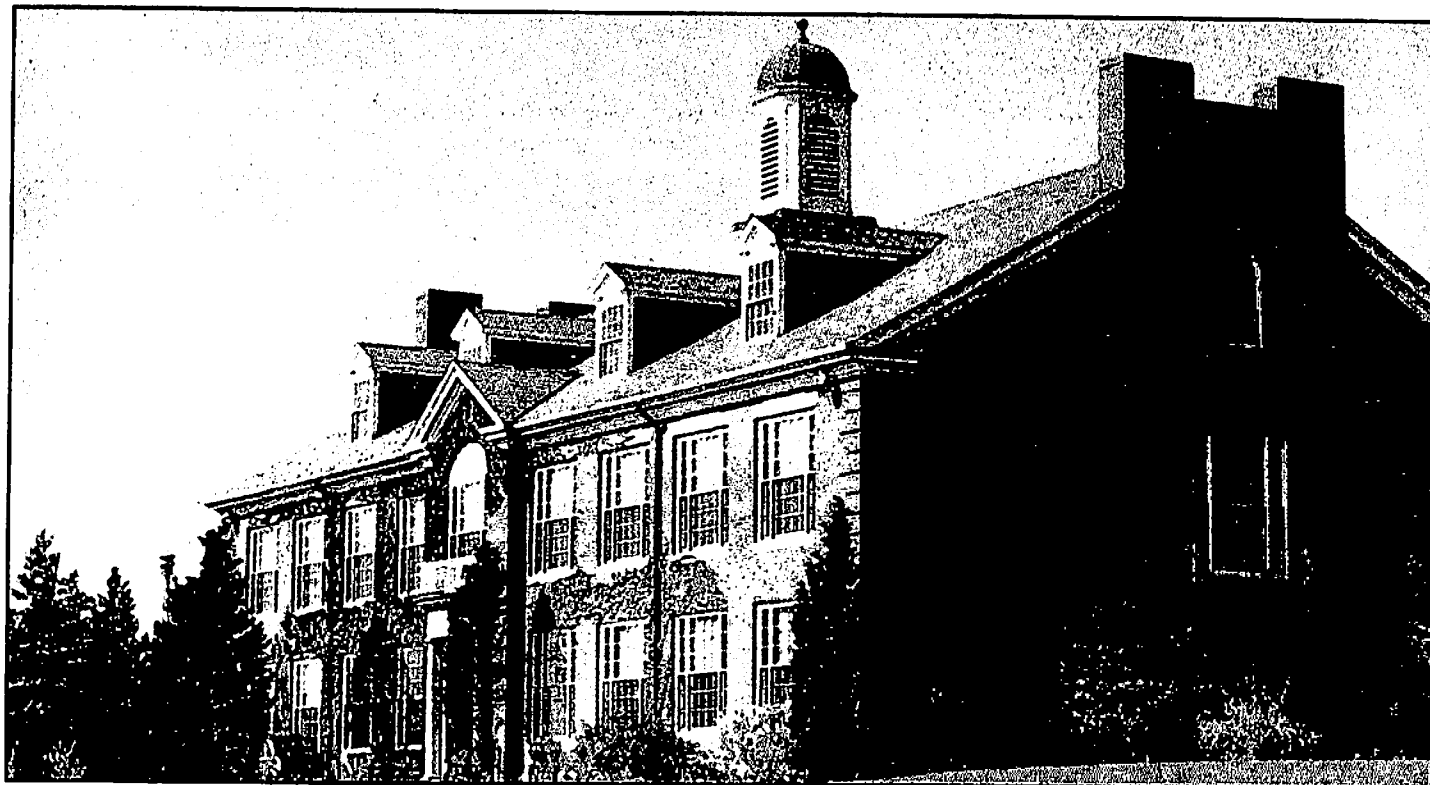


Board of Library Trustees  
Thomas H. Lannan, Jr., Chairman  
Jane Bradley, Vice-Chairman  
Christopher Flanagan, Secretary  
John Sinclair  
Lynne Walsh  
Corinne Woodworth

(The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article in the amount of \$30,000)  
(Library Trustees)

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or transfer from the Stabilization fund or from other funds or authorize borrowing, a sum or sums of money to be expended by the Board of Library Trustees to prepare design development plans for expansion of the Duxbury Free Public Library; or take any action in relation thereto.

## ARTICLE 16



*Preserving the Past . . . Building for the Future.*

## **1 Why is the present library inadequate?**

Our library today simply cannot serve the present population adequately. Even after using every square inch of space available in the building; even after sacrificing valuable gallery space to give room to a squeezed reference department; even after removing a wall in the children's room; the library is still critically crowded. We have had no shelf space available for years; we have a cramped children's library area and no meeting room; and we cannot meet the needs of our handicapped patrons. Tomorrow's needs are even more pressing.

## **2 What challenges are upon us?**

We know that, in years to come, our library will play a more pivotal role in our children's recreation and education, from pre-school through high school. At the same time, we need to offer more services to our senior citizens and the business community as well as our core of literate patrons. We need to accommodate advances in information technology while still providing a quiet place for our citizens to browse, read and research.

## **3 What are our most immediate problems?**

Aside from inadequacy of space, we need to make the library accessible to conform with the new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA.) To satisfy this law would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and even then, because it sits on five different levels, the current building would never be completely accessible. The library also needs other major repairs and updating.

## **4 Can these problems be solved on our present site?**

Yes, at a price. Our architects presented a master plan which both reconciled our five levels with a single, handicapped-accessible elevator and satisfied the space requirements library experts recommended for us. To achieve all this, however, the plan called for two entrances at different levels, an intricate floor plan, three new wings and still we were left with our original defects of wasted space and too many levels.

## **5 How does the upper Alden building differ?**

The Upper Alden School offers exactly the area necessary to meet the library program but on just two levels instead of five. A partial basement, accessible from grade level at the rear, is just the right size to provide a suite of lecture/meeting rooms that can be used independently of library hours.

## **6 Why is this important?**

Because of its very efficient configuration, the Upper Alden School can be redesigned into a new library for an estimated million dollars less than expansion at the current site. The flexibility and simplicity of the design means staff can operate more efficiently and with maximum effect. And the simplicity of Upper Alden's design, when combined with new, energy-efficient systems, would make it a much more economical building to maintain.

## **7 Will a bigger building need more staff?**

No new personnel would be needed to move into a larger library at Upper Alden because of the efficiency of operation the design would offer. However, most libraries report dramatic increase in use after expansion. Right now, we are operating with a reduced staff and reduced hours, because of the recession.

## **8 Why ask for this money now in the present recession?**

First, prices throughout the building trade are low now, and if history holds true, they will rise quickly as the recession eases. We believe this will happen in the near future.

Second, we want to be first in line when federal and state grant money becomes available, and it will become available again soon, we believe. This year, only two libraries applied for Federal funding. During a recent prosperous year, 19 libraries competed for the funds. Grants are only made to towns who have Design Development Plans.

## **9 What are design development plans?**

In design development, all final detailed design decisions are made. An architect, chosen using the State-mandated designer selection procedure, will work with the library and town to make sure the library looks and functions the way it should.

## **10 What's next?**

Next are contract documents, which express the design decisions in technical, biddable form. Design drawings, which we are asking for now, are good for a long period. Contract documents, which are made just prior to construction, become obsolete quickly because model numbers and products change.

## **11 What if we do nothing?**

We do not feel this is a viable option. The ADA requirements, which went into effect this year, require us to become handicapped-accessible immediately, no matter where we house our library. To stay where we are without expansion would require us to spend about \$250,000 just to meet this requirement, and we would lose precious space in the process. To meet the handicap requirements at Alden Upper would be a far better solution to both our handicapped-accessibility and our space problems.

## **12 How can we afford to spend money now?**

Conscious of the still-gloomy climate, we have limited this appeal to only design development and we are asking the Town to provide only half of the needed amount. We will collect the other half by private fundraising.

We are pursuing this now not only because the library is inadequate, but for other reasons, too. Construction costs are 30 percent lower than they were two years ago, and they are probably substantially lower than they will be in two years hence. This would make our total project cost much lower than it would be in a time of full recovery. At the same time, the bonding rate, which would be applied to this lower sum, is at its lowest level in many years. We believe we can save millions of dollars by capitalizing on these conditions.

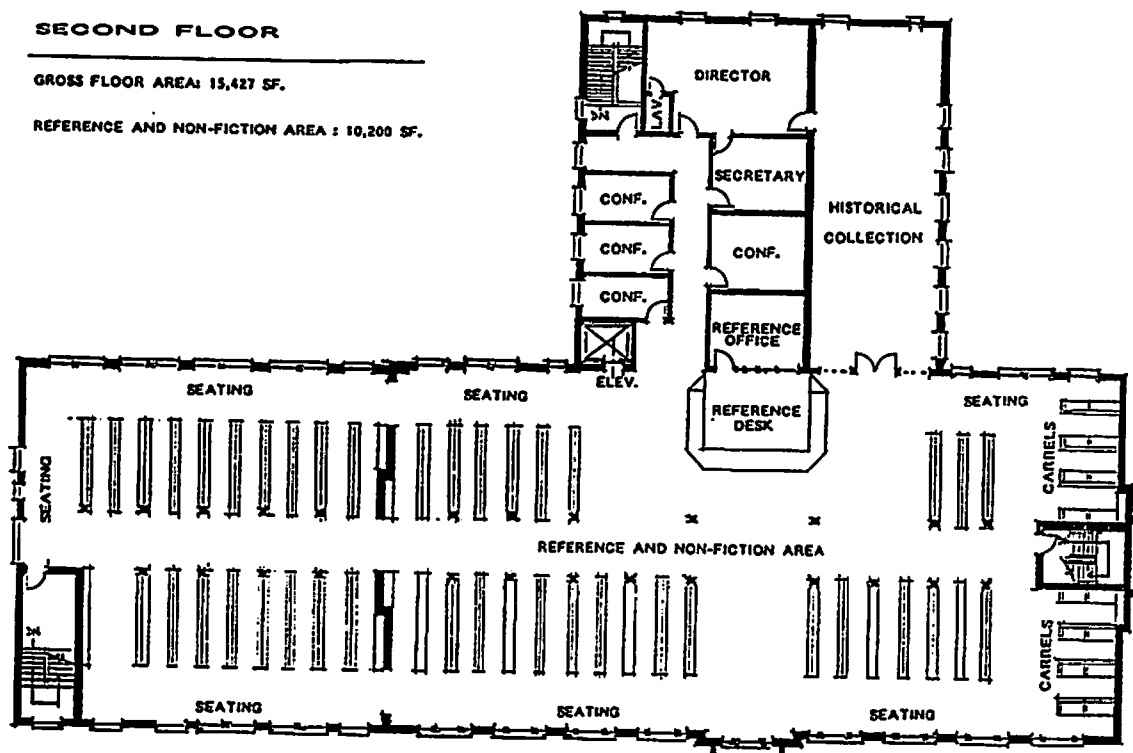
Finally, the Upper Alden School could either be claimed for other use or damaged by disuse if we don't act now.

We want to be first in line for all available grant money; we want to privately raise as much of the total project costs as we possibly can; and we want to spend the least amount of public money we can. For these goals we believe the town should act now.

## SECOND FLOOR

GROSS FLOOR AREA: 15,427 SF.

REFERENCE AND NON-FICTION AREA : 10,200 SF.



PRELIMINARY PLANS

## TO ALL DUXBURY VOTERS

For more than a century, our library has been the one place in our town where anyone can pursue private research, public policy, scholarly curiosity or flights of fancy through books, computers or audio-visual materials . . . for free.

Yet our library, last expanded 25 years ago, has become physically inadequate to serve Duxbury's current population and cannot meet the needs of the town in the coming decades without immediate change. We saw it coming, and six years ago hired a professional library consultant to study our library and its future: he told us we must expand.

Two years later, the town appointed a Long-Range Planning Committee to tell us how the library should meet the needs of Duxbury over the next 20 years. After extensive research, both in the community and with an architect and another library consultant, we accepted the committee's findings, which were incorporated into a Master Plan and Building Program.

Presented to Town Meeting in 1990, this plan and program showed in detail why the library needed to expand and meet critical space problems, and it showed how and where these problems should be solved by enlarging the library on its current site.

As we prepared to take the next step toward expanding the library, the unexpected vacancy of the Alden Upper Building was brought to our attention by the Fiscal Advisory Committee. Our architect examined it carefully for size, structure and suitability and found it not only perfectly suited to our expansion, but far more economical.

Despite the current economic climate — and some ways, because of it — we feel expansion now at the Alden Upper Building not only makes good sense, it makes the best sense.

As elected officials mindful of our responsibilities to the taxpayer, we are submitting our plans for the Alden site for your consideration. We feel, most strongly, that Duxbury should not miss this opportunity to have an excellent library in a superb location for the most economical price.

We will try to answer some of your questions here, and we hope you will attend Town Meeting on April 25 to make an informed decision on Article 16.

The Board of Library Trustees

Duxbury Town Library